

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

ADP-00 /140 W

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O 310004Z AUG 73 ZFF-6

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9218

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS USUN 3036

DEPT PASS USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN RQ PFOR

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SUBJ: PUERTO RICO IN UN COMITE OF 24

REF: USUN 2967

1. AT ITS MEETING AFTERNOON AUG 30, COMITE OF 24 APPROVED RES ON PUERTO RICO TRANSMITTED REFTEL. VOTE WAS 12 IN FAVOR (BULGARIA, CHILE, CHINA, CONGO, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, INDIA, IRAQ, MALI, SYRIA, TANZANIA, USSR, YUGOSLAVIA), 2 AGAINST (ETHIOPIA, IRAN), 9. ABSTENTIONS (AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRALIA, FIJI, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST, SWEDEN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, TUNISIA, VENEZUELA) AND 1 ABSENTEE (SIERRA LEONE). ANALYSIS OF VOTE AND LAST-MINUTE NEGOTIATIONS WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER VOTE, AMB SCALI ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO PRESS:

"I CONSIDER TODAY'S VOTE BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION TO BE NOT ONLY IRRELEVANT BUT LUDICROUS.

IT IS PARTICULARLY MYSTIFYING, COMING ONLY A FEW DAYS AFTER SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT COUNSELED THAT MEMBER STATES COULD DEVELOP A FAR MORE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION BY CONSISTENTLY RESPECTING THE DECISIONS AND FINDINGS OF THE MAIN ORGANS OF THE UN. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE NOT ONLY IGNORED THIS ADVICE; THEY ALSO IGNORED RESOLUTION 748 ADOPTED BY THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1953 WHICH CLEARLY RECOGNIZED THAT THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, PLUS THE CLEARER DECISION OF THE 26TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1971 WHICH DECIDED NOT TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO.

BY THIS VOTE TODAY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVE ACCELERATED THE COMMITTEE'S RETREAT FROM REALITY AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE TENDENCY DEPLORED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO USE THE UNITED NATIONS TO ACHIEVE NARROW GOALS.

THE RESOLUTION ITSELF CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THAT THESE DELEGATES DELIBERATELY CHOSE TO OVERLOOK THE REALITIES OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PUERTO RICAN SITUATION. EVEN THOUGH IT CLAIMS TO BE ONLY A "PROCEDURAL" RESOLUTION, IT REFERS TO A DISCREDITED FRINGE GROUP WHICH ADVOCATES A PARTICULAR POLITICAL FUTURE FOR PUERTO RICO. IT MAKES NO MENTION OF THE FACT, STRESSED REPEATEDLY BY PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR RAFAEL HERNANDEZ-COLON, FORMER GOVERNOR LUIS FERRE AND MYSELF THAT 96 PERCENT OF THE PUERTO RICAN VOTERS REJECTED THE FORMULA PEDDLED BY THIS GROUP IN THE 1972 ELECTIONS IN PUERTO

RICO.

IT MAY BE SOME CONSOLATION TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO, WHO UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE AS OUTRAGED AS I AM BY THIS BLATANT INTERFERENCE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO REALIZE THAT MANY OF THE NATIONS WHICH TOOK THE LEAD IN SUPPORTING THE RESOLUTION DO NOT PERMIT THEIR CITIZENS FREELY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON WHO WILL GOVERN THEM AND FOR HOW LONG. THEREFORE, IT WAS PERHAPS INEVITABLE, IF REGRETTABLE, THAT THEY IGNORED THE 1972 ELECTION RETURNS FROM PUERTO RICO.

I HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ACTION TAKEN TODAY WILL NOT CAUSE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO TO BLAME THE UNITED NATIONS AS AN INSTITUTION. WE HAVE LISTENED CAREFULLY TO THE STATEMENTS MADE TODAY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE NATIONS WHICH COULD NOT ACCEPT THIS RESOLUTION. WE FIND IN THESE STATEMENTS JUSTIFICATION FOR OUR CONTINUED CONFIDENCE THAT RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER AND FOR THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLES TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN DESTINIES STILL EXISTS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE AS WELL AS IN THE UNITED NATIONS AS A WHOLE. RESOLUTIONS SUCH AS THAT ADOPTED TODAY, HOWEVER, DO NOT BRING CREDIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS AS IT SEEKS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE REAL WORLD."

SCALI

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED USINT BAGHDAD.

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